

CLAIMS:

1. A towable trailer for transporting, storing and housing equipment or materials, comprising a wheel-mounted trailer frame for housing equipment or materials;

a substantially "Y"-shaped tongue (18) having a pair of side arms pivotably mounted to each side of the frame (2) and a front tow bar with forward hitch means; and

a pair of flip-down legs (30) affixed one each side of the trailer frame (2) and proportioned to contact a ground surface when in a flip-down position;

said tongue (18) being pivotable between a lowered position for transport of the trailer and a vertical secured position for storage of the trailer or storage or display of materials or equipment thereon;

whereby, in the lowered position, said forward hitch means is connectable to a towing vehicle, while in the vertical position, lower portions of the side arms of the tongue (18) are capable of contacting a ground surface to support the trailer for storage, housing or display of materials or equipment thereon, and said flip-down legs (30) are capable, in the flip-down position, of supporting the trailer frame during pivoting of said tongue (18).

2. The trailer according to claim 1, wherein each of the two side arms of the tongue (18) comprises two segments, a first segment of each arm affixed to and extending laterally rearward from the front tow bar at an angle greater than perpendicular to but less than parallel with the tow bar, and a second segment of each arm extending laterally rearwardly from the first segment and parallel with the tow bar and forming one of the side arms of the tongue (18).

3. The trailer according to claim 1, wherein the trailer frame (2) is provided with side rails.

4. The trailer according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein a connector cross beam is attached perpendicularly to the side of the frame (2) at

both ends in the same plane to create a stable rectangular frame such that the sides of the frame (2) do not extend rearwardly beyond the connector cross beam.

5. The trailer according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein an underside and an upperside of each side of the frame (2) are open, enabling the lower portion of each side arm of the tongue (18) to disengage and freely pivot vertically through the frame (2).

6. The trailer according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein a pivot means mounted to each side of the frame (2) comprises a pivot pin (12) removably inserted laterally through aligned holes in each of a front part of the flip-down leg (30), the exterior wall of the side of the frame (2), a washer (22), the side arm of the tongue (18), a second washer (22'), and an interior wall of the side of the frame (2) and is secured with a fastener such as a lock nut or a cotter pin.

7. The trailer according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein each flip-down leg (30) is affixed laterally to an exterior wall of the side of the frame (2) by the pivot means and by a flip-down leg hitch means.

8. The trailer according to claim 7, wherein the flip-down leg hitch means comprises a hitch pin(8) removably inserted laterally through aligned holes in each of an exterior rearward part of a flip-down leg (30), an exterior wall of the side of the frame (2), the engaged side arm of the tongue (18), and an interior wall of the side of the frame (2) and is secured with a fastener such as a cotter pin, presto pin, or the like.

9. The trailer according to any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein a vertical hitch means capable of vertically securing the upper portion of the tongue (18) while the trailer is in a storage/housing comprises a hitch pin (8) removably inserted laterally through aligned holes in each of a vertical hitch pin bracket (28) extending from the exterior side of the frame (2), an upper portion of the vertically extended side arm of the tongue (18), and a vertical hitch pin bracket (28) extending from the

interior side of the frame (2) and is secured with a fastener such as a cotter pin, presto pin, or the like.

10. The trailer according to claim 9, wherein the fastener for the hitch pin (8) inserted into the vertical hitch pin bracket (28) is a locking device (40) such as a padlock that provides stability and acts as a deterrent to theft.

11. The trailer according to any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein a removable foot plate (10) is affixed to the end of each side arm of the tongue (18) for use as a ground support base when the arm pivots downward to support the trailer and is capable of insertion into the frame (2) for storage when not in use.

12. The trailer according to any one of claims 1 to 11, wherein the trailer frame (2) is provided with suspension springs.

13. The trailer according to any one of claims 1 to 12, wherein the trailer frame (2) is provided with an equipment cover (32) capable of pivoting from open to closed positions and attached to the pivot point of the trailer.

14. A method for converting a trailer from a transportation mode into a storage/housing mode, said trailer having a frame (2); a substantially Y-shaped tongue (18) having a pair of side arms pivotably mounted to each side of the frame (2) and a front tow bar with forward hitch means; a pair of flip-down legs (30) each leg being affixed laterally to the frame (2) by pivot means and a hitch pin (8) inserted through a flip-down leg hitch means; a foot plate (10); and a vertical hitch means at an upper portion of the side arm and adapted to be connected to a tow vehicle, said method comprising the steps of:

disconnecting the front tow bar with the forward hitch means from the tow vehicle;

removing the hitch pin (8) from the flip-down leg hitch means, enabling the flip-down leg (30) to pivot downward about the pivot means into a

substantially vertical position thereby contacting a ground surface and vertically supporting the frame (2);

pivoting the front tow bar of the tongue (18) upward and pivoting lower portions of the side arms of the tongue (18) downward about a pivot means into a substantially vertical position;

pivoting the tongue (18) into a substantially vertical position perpendicular to the frame about the pivot means, thereby engaging the lower portions of the side arms as support legs and vertically supporting the frame (2); and

securing the side arms of the tongue (18) in the substantially vertical position by inserting the hitch pin (8) into the vertical hitch means.

15. The method according to claim 14, wherein the hitch pin (8) positioned in the vertical hitch means is locked with a locking device (40).